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Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 SP-02 SS-15
STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 /127 W
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P 080919Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1067
INFO DOE WASHDC PRIORITY
DOE GERMANTOWN MD PRIORITY

UNCLAS TOKYO 16259

FOR OES

DOE FOR DR. JOHN M. DEUTCH

DEPARTMENT PASS TO WHITE HOUSE OSTP FOR MR. HUBERMAN;
NSF FOR DR. PIMENTEL .

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, JA
SUBJECT: USG/JAPAN ENERGY R&D CONSULTATIONS: JAPANESE PRESS

1. THE JAPANESE PRESS GENERALLY REACTED WARMLY AND FAVORABLY TO THE OUTCOME OF THE FIRST WORKING GROUP MEETING ON U.S.-JAPAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO PROMOTE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ENERGY SOURCES AND OTHER FIELDS HELD IN TOKYO SEPT. 4-6. "A SIGNIFICANT STEP IN JAPAN-U.S. COOPERATION IN SCIENCE," HEADLINED THE ASAHI SHIMBUN IN A LENGTHY EDITORIAL. "JAPAN-U.S. SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION HAS BEEN CEMENTED," DECLARED THE YOMIURI SHIMBUN IN A COMMENTARY.

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2. THE ASAHI ATTACHED SIGNIFICANCE TO THE NATURE OF THE CONSULTATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN "LAUNCHED BY AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE SUMMIT." RECALLING OTHER BILATERALS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE U.S. RELATING TO NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY, THE PAPER POINTED OUT THAT THE GREATER PART OF COOPERATIVE ACTIVITY IN THE PAST HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO LESS COSTLY SOFTWARE ASPECTS SUCH AS EXCHANGE OF

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SCIENTISTS, SEMINARS, EXCHANGE OF DATA AND ANNUAL MEETINGS. "THIS TIME, EMPHASIS HAS BEEN PLACED FROM THE BEGINNING ON COOPERATION IN HARDWARE ASPECTS REQUIRING INVESTMENT OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF FUNDS TO PROVIDE LABORATORIES AND TEST FACILITIES AND TO UNDERTAKE JOINT RESEARCH BY POOLING INTELLECTUAL RESOURCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES."
3. THE YOMIURI NOTED THAT THE PROPOSED BILATERAL EFFORT IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IS A SCHEME UNPRECEDENTED IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD AND, IF CARRIED ON WELL, WILL BRING IMMEASURABLE BENEFITS TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

4. THE PAPERS NOTED DIFFERENCES IN APPROACH BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN SELECTING AREAS OF COOPERATION. THAT THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO GIVE PRIORITY TO NUCLEAR FUSION HAS BEEN INTERPRETED BY THE PRESS AS SIGNALING A CONCESSION ON THE PART OF THE U.S. WHICH, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, HAD WANTED TO GIVE TOP PRIORITY TO COAL LIQUEFACTION. AS IT TURNED OUT, THEY NOTED, THE TWO SIDES ALSO AGREED TO COOPERATE IN COAL LIQUEFACTION, (U.S. PROPOSAL), SOLAR ENERGY-PHOTOSYNTHESIS (JAPANESE PROPOSAL), GEOTHERMAL ENERGY AND HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS (US PROPOSALS).

5. THE ASAHI INTERPRETED AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A HIGH-LEVEL JOINT COMMITTEE TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION
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OF COOPERATION AS INDICATING DISSATISFACTION ON PART OF THE U.S. DELEGATION THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THOSE NOT INVESTED WITH BUDGET APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY ARE NOT PRODUCTIVE. "THE U.S. SIDE HAD APPARENTLY EXPECTED THAT THE JAPANESE WOULD COME TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE EQUIPPED WITHA GENERAL BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK--BUT ACTUALLY THE JAPANESE SIDE WASN'T PREPARED AT ALL IN TERMS OF FUNDING."
MANSFIELD

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NNN

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Disposition History: n/a
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